

CHAPTER 53  
DETERMINATION OF NET INCOME

[Prior to 12/17/86, Revenue Department[730]]

**701—53.1(422) Computation of net income for corporations.** Net income for state purposes shall mean federal taxable income, before deduction for net operating losses, as properly computed under the Internal Revenue Code, and shall include the adjustments in 53.2(422) to 53.13(422) and 53.17(422) to 53.20(422). The remaining provisions of this rule and 53.14(422) to 53.16(422) shall also be applicable in determining net income.

In the case of a corporation which is a member of an affiliated group of corporations filing a consolidated income tax return for the taxable year for federal income tax purposes, but files a separate return for state purposes, taxable income as properly computed for federal purposes is determined as if the corporation had filed a separate return for federal income tax purposes for the taxable year and each preceding taxable year for which it was a member of an affiliated group. For purposes of this paragraph, the taxpayer's separate taxable income shall be determined as if the election provided by Section 243(b)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code had been in effect for all those years.

When a federal short period return is filed and the federal taxable income is required to be adjusted to an annual basis, the Iowa taxable income shall also be adjusted to an annual basis. The tax liability for a short period is computed by multiplying the taxable income for the short period by 12 and dividing the result by the number of months in the short period. The tax is determined on the resulting total as if it were the taxable income, and the tax computed is divided by 12 and multiplied by the number of months in the short period. This adjustment shall apply only to income attributable to business carried on within the state of Iowa.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.35.

**701—53.2(422) Net operating loss carrybacks and carryovers.** In years beginning after December 31, 1954, net operating losses shall be allowed or allowable for Iowa corporation income tax purposes to the same extent they are allowed or allowable for federal corporation income tax purposes for the same period, provided the following adjustments are made:

**53.2(1) Additions to income.**

a. Refunds of federal income taxes due to net operating loss and investment credit carrybacks or carryovers shall be reflected in the following manner:

(1) Accrual basis taxpayers shall accrue refunds of federal income taxes to the year in which the net operating loss occurs. (See Revenue Ruling 69-372 for similar federal treatment of state income tax.)

(2) Cash basis taxpayers shall reflect refunds of federal income taxes in the return for the year in which the refunds are received.

b. Iowa income tax deducted on the federal return for the loss year shall be reflected as an addition to income in the year of the loss.

c. Interest and dividends received in the year of the loss on federally tax-exempt securities shall be reflected as additions to income in the year of the loss.

**53.2(2) Reductions of income.**

a. Federal income tax paid or accrued during the year of the net operating loss shall be reflected to the extent allowed by law as an additional deduction in the year of the loss.

b. Iowa income tax refunds reported as income for federal return purposes in the loss year shall be reflected as reductions of income in the year of the loss.

c. Interest and dividends received from federal securities during the loss year shall be reflected in the year of the loss as a reduction of income.

**53.2(3)** If a corporation does business both within and without Iowa, it shall make adjustments reflecting the apportionment and allocation of its operating loss on the basis of business done within and without the state of Iowa after completing the provisions of subrules 53.2(1) and 53.2(2).

*a.* After making the adjustments to federal taxable income as provided in 53.2(1) and 53.2(2), the total net allocable income or loss shall be added to or deducted from, as the case may be, the net federal income or loss as adjusted for Iowa tax purposes. The resulting income or loss so determined shall be subject to apportionment as provided in rules 701—54.5(422), 54.6(422) and 54.7(422). The apportioned income or loss shall be added or deducted, as the case may be, to the amount of net allocable income or loss properly attributable to Iowa. This amount is the taxable income or net operating loss attributable to Iowa for that year.

*b.* The net operating loss attributable to Iowa, as determined in rule 53.2(422), shall be subject to a 3-year carryback and a 15-year carryover provision. This loss shall be carried back or over to the applicable year as a reduction or part of a reduction of the net income attributable to Iowa for that year. However, an Iowa net operating loss shall not be carried back to a year in which the taxpayer was not doing business in Iowa. If the election under Section 172(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code is made, the Iowa net operating loss shall be carried forward 15 taxable years. A copy of the federal election made under Section 172(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code must be attached to the Iowa corporation income tax return filed with the department.

*c.* For tax years beginning after August 5, 1997, a net operating loss attributable to Iowa, as determined in rule 701—53.2(422), incurred in a presidentially declared disaster area by a corporation engaged in a small business or in the trade or business of farming must be carried back 3 taxable years and carried forward 20 taxable years. All other net operating losses attributable to Iowa must be carried back 2 taxable years and carried forward 20 taxable years. This loss shall be carried back or over to the applicable year as a reduction or part of a reduction of the net income attributable to Iowa for that year. However, an Iowa net operating loss shall not be carried back to a year in which the taxpayer was not doing business in Iowa. If the election under Section 172(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code is made, the Iowa net operating loss shall be carried forward 20 taxable years. A copy of the federal election made under Section 172(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code must be attached to the Iowa corporation income tax return filed with the department.

*d.* For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1998, for a taxpayer who is engaged in the trade or business of farming as defined in Section 263A(e)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code and has a loss from farming as defined in Section 172(b)(1)(F) of the Internal Revenue Code including modifications prescribed by rule by the director, the Iowa loss from the trade or business of farming is a net operating loss which may be carried back five taxable years prior to the taxable year of the loss. If the taxpayer has elected for federal income tax purposes to carry a net operating loss from the trade or business of farming back two years, the taxpayer must carry the Iowa net operating loss from the trade or business of farming back two years. However, an Iowa net operating loss shall not be carried back to a year in which the taxpayer was not doing business in Iowa.

When the taxpayer carries on more than one trade or business within a corporate shell or files a consolidated Iowa corporation income tax return, the income or loss from each trade or business must be combined to determine the amount of net operating loss that exists and whether it is a net operating loss from the trade or business of farming.

**EXAMPLE 1.** The taxpayer carries on the trade or business of farming and also the trade or business of trucking for entities outside the corporate shell. For the tax year, the taxpayer had a net operating loss from farming of \$25,000 and net income from trucking of \$10,000 for a net operating loss for the year of \$15,000 which is a net operating loss from the trade or business of farming which may be carried back 5 tax years and forward 20 tax years.

EXAMPLE 2. The taxpayer carries on the trade or business of farming and the trade or business of construction. For the tax year, the taxpayer had income from farming of \$12,000 and a net operating loss from construction of \$45,000 for a net operating loss for the year of \$33,000 which is a net operating loss from the trade or business of construction which may be carried back 2 tax years and forward 20 tax years.

EXAMPLE 3. The taxpayer carries on the trade or business of farming and the trade or business of construction. During the tax year, the taxpayer had a net operating loss of \$18,000 from farming and a net operating loss of \$9,000 from construction for a total net operating loss of \$27,000. Of this net operating loss, \$18,000 is from farming and may be carried back 5 years and forward 20 years and \$9,000 is from construction and may be carried back 2 years and forward 20 years.

**53.2(4)** No part of a net operating loss for a year which the corporation was not subject to the imposition of Iowa corporation income tax shall be included in the Iowa net operating loss deduction applicable to any year prior to or subsequent to the year of the loss. To be deductible, a net operating loss must be sustained from that portion of the corporation's trade or business carried on in Iowa.

**53.2(5)** No part of a net operating loss may be carried back or carried forward if the carryback or carryforward would be disallowed for federal income tax purposes under Sections 172(b)(1)(E) and 172(h) of the Internal Revenue Code. This provision is effective for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1989.

**53.2(6)** The carryover of Iowa net operating losses after reorganizations or mergers is limited to the same extent as the carryover of a net operating loss is limited under the provisions of Sections 381 through 386 of the Internal Revenue Code and regulations thereunder or any other section of the Internal Revenue Code or regulations thereunder. Where the taxpayer files as a part of a consolidated income tax return for federal income tax purposes, but a separate return for Iowa income tax purposes, the limitation on an Iowa net operating loss carryover must be determined as though a separate income tax return was filed for federal income tax purposes.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.35 as amended by 1999 Iowa Acts, chapter 95.